

EMIL LASSILA, MARTHA LASSILA, ELLEN HUHTA, AND
SYLVIA HUHTA

MAY 14, 1942.—Ordered to be printed

MR. TUNNELL, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 4953]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4953) for the relief of Emil Lassila, Martha Lassila, Ellen Huhta, and Sylvia Huhta, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with the recommendation that the bill do pass with the following amendments:

On page 1, line 6, strike out the figures "\$929.25" and insert "\$361.25".

On page 1, line 8, strike out the figures "\$1,057.65" and insert "\$557.65".

On page 1, line 9, strike out the figures "\$3,300.65" and insert "\$1,100.65".

On page 1, line 11, strike out the figures "\$1,557.85" and insert "\$557.85".

The facts are fully set forth in House Report No. 1720, Seventy-seventh Congress, second session, which is appended hereto and made a part of this report.

H. Rept. No. 1720, 77th Cong., 2d sess.

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4953) for the relief of Emil Lassila, Martha Lassila, Ellen Huhta, and Sylvia Huhta, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with amendments and recommend that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The amendments are as follows:

Page 1, line 8, strike out the figures "\$5,057.65" and insert in lieu thereof "\$1,057.65".

Page 1, line 10, strike out the figures "\$3,057.85" and insert in lieu thereof "\$1,557.85".

The purpose of the proposed legislation is to pay to Emil Lassila the sum of \$929.25, to the legal guardian of Martha Lassila the sum of \$1,057.65, to the legal guardian of Ellen Huhta the sum of \$3,300.65, and to the legal guardian of Sylvia

Huhta the sum of \$1,557.85, for personal injuries and property damage sustained by them when a car in which they were riding was struck by a truck in the service of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey on September 23, 1941, on United States Highway 41, near Houghton, Mich.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On September 23, 1939, Emil Lassila, driving a 1939 Ford coach, with Martha Lassila, age 16, Gertrude Lassila, age 14, Ellen Huhta, age 16, Sylvia Huhta, age 18, was proceeding along United States Highway No. 41 about 2 miles northwest of Chassel, Mich.; that as they approached a curve in the road, a 1½-ton Dodge truck, belonging to the Coast and Geodetic Survey, driven by Leon Smith, was proceeding in the opposite direction at a speed of about 30 miles per hour; that as the Government driver was making the turn at the curve, the steering gear was "caught" or "fouled," causing the truck to continue in a straight line ahead and across the center line of the highway; that before the Government driver could swerve the truck back to his own side of the road, the truck struck the Lassila car.

Under date of June 11, 1940, the Department of Commerce, reporting on the merits of the case, recommended the favorable passage of the bill.

Your committee, after carefully considering the merits of the case, find that Emil Lassila sustained a sprained wrist, broken nose, and two scalp lacerations; that on July 25, 1941, he complained of stiffness in his neck, weakening of the left wrist, causing him considerable trouble while doing heavy work, and that his nose is still slightly crooked as a result of the break; your committee recommend the payment of \$925.25 to him, constituting \$21.25 for hospital bills, \$40 for medical treatment, property damage to his car, and pain and suffering; that Martha Lassila sustained lacerations of the eye and head and was permanently injured with a scar 1¼ inches long extending upward from inner point of left eyebrow toward center of forehead, and two scars on left hand. The committee recommend to her legal guardian \$25 for doctor bills, \$32.65 hospital expenses, \$1,000 for pain and suffering, making a total of \$1,057.65; to the legal guardian of Ellen Huhta, who sustained traumatic arthritis, scalp and hand lacerations, fractured hip and six dorsal vertebrae, and small depressive fracture of skull; she is permanently disabled, suffering considerably with pain in her back whenever work is attempted and, while resting, is forced to lie in a certain position to avoid pain; your committee recommend that she be compensated in the amount of \$150.65 for hospital expenses, \$150 doctor bill, \$3,000 for pain and suffering; to Sylvia Huhta, who sustained contusions and lacerations of head and hand, and abrasion of chest; as of July 25, 1941, her face is marred with several small scars and she complains of frequent pain in chest; recommended that she be paid \$25 for doctor bills, \$32.85 for hospital bills, \$1,500 for pain and suffering.

Appended hereto is the report of the Department of Commerce, together with other pertinent evidence.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, June 11, 1940.

Hon. AMBROSE J. KENNEDY,
Chairman, Committee on Claims,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: In your communication of May 21, 1940, you submitted to the Department, for consideration, H. R. 9030, for the relief of Emil Lassila, Martha Lassila, Ellen Huhta, and Sylvia Huhta.

There are attached copies of certain papers in the files of the Department which may be of assistance to your committee in reaching its conclusion as to the merits of the claims embodied in this bill.

This accident occurred on September 23, 1939, at 5 p. m. on United States Highway No. 41, about 2 miles northwest of Chassel, Mich. It was still daylight; the weather was clear; and the road was dry. The collision involved a 1½-ton Dodge truck belonging to the Coast and Geodetic Survey driven by Leon F. Smith, an employee of the Bureau, and a 1929 Ford coach, driven by Emil Lassila. Mr. Smith at the time of the accident was returning to camp from his duties as magnetic observer at his station near Baraga, Mich., and was therefore on official Government business. Mr. Smith was alone in the truck and the

following people were with Mr. Lassila: Martha Lassila, age 16; Gertrude Lassila, age 14; Ellen Huhta, age 16; Sylvia Huhta, age 18.

According to Mr. Smith's signed statement, at the time of the accident he was proceeding west on United States Highway No. 41 at a speed of about 30 miles per hour. The other car was approaching the curve at about the same speed. As Mr. Smith was making the turn at the curve, the steering gear of the truck was "caught" or "fouled" causing the truck to continue in a straight line ahead and across the center line of the highway. The approaching car was within 20 feet of the truck. Before Mr. Smith could swerve the truck back to his own side of the road the truck struck the Lassila car.

It is undisputed that the operator of the Government truck was on the wrong side of the road when the accident took place and it would seem, therefore, that the Government should accept responsibility for the damages that were caused by the accident. It seems quite possible, however, that the amounts of compensation provided by the bill may be excessive. Our present information is that the wrecked car was a 1929 model A Ford coach. The bill provides for \$561.25 to Emil Lassila, the operator of that car. The physician's report states that Mr. Lassila suffered a fractured nose and cuts on his arms, face, and head, but that his condition was not serious. Presumably, therefore, most of that proposed award is intended to represent the value of the wrecked car.

The bill would also make awards to the legal guardian of Martha Lassila in the amount of \$5,057.65; Ellen Huhta, \$3,300.65; and Sylvia Huhta, \$3,057.85. The doctor's report made at the time of the accident indicates that the first girl suffered serious injuries. However, his report as to the other two girls merely reports cuts and bruises, not serious but possibly requiring a week of hospitalization.

We have instituted an investigation to ascertain as fairly and accurately as possible the extent of the damages suffered by these persons and shall report to you further as soon as that investigation has been completed. We shall greatly appreciate it if the committee will defer action on the bill until the Department can complete and report on that further investigation.

Very sincerely yours,

EDWARD J. NOBLE,
Acting Secretary of Commerce.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, August 8, 1941.

HON. DAN R. McGEHEE,
Chairman, Committee on Claims, House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: In your communication of June 4, 1941, you submitted to the Department for consideration H. R. 4953, a bill for the relief of Emil Lassila, Martha Lassila, Ellen Huhta, and Sylvia Huhta.

This bill is identical with H. R. 9030, Seventy-sixth Congress, with the exception of the amount to be paid to Emil Lassila, which has been increased from \$561.25 to \$929.25.

The Department submitted a report to you on H. R. 9030 under date of June 11, 1940. In that report the Department stated that it was of the opinion that the driver of the Government truck was responsible for the occurrence of the collision and that accordingly the Government should accept responsibility for the damages incurred. However, as the amounts of compensation provided by the bill appeared to be excessive, the Department stated that it proposed to institute an additional investigation to ascertain as fairly and accurately as possible the extent of the damages suffered, and requested that action be deferred on the bill until the investigation could be completed and a further report submitted.

The Department has now completed the investigation, and there are enclosed the originals of certain papers in our files which represent the information we have been able to secure as a result of this investigation. The Department trusts that the additional information obtained may be of some assistance to the committee in reaching a determination concerning the merits of the claims included in this bill.

Please return the enclosures when they have served their purpose.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT H. HINCKLEY,
Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
UNITED STATES COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY,
Roseau, Minn., July 25, 1941.

To: The Director, United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D. C.
From: Martin Z. Braden, signalman, Coast and Geodetic Survey.
Subject: Collision accident involving truck U. S. 272 (report, July 25, 1941).
Reference: 62-BJ orders.

In accordance with your orders to me, dated July 16, 1941, and as soon as they were received, I proceeded from Roseau, Minn. to Houghton, Mich., arriving there July 22, 1941.

On July 23, I visited the scene of the collision and interviewed as many people as could be found, who had any knowledge of the collision, also Emil Lassila.

After considering the conditions, it seemed advisable to make up the enclosed questionnaires for all persons involved, actual witnesses, and people most familiar with the case. It seemed the signed questionnaires would furnish most of the information requested in a definite manner. Witnesses named by those involved, who were still in the vicinity, were interviewed as follows:

John Tormala: Took Emil Lassila, Martha Lassila, and Gertrude Lassila to hospital. Arrived at scene immediately after collision. Actual collision not seen. Result of interview affirmed all information as given, by those involved and police records.

Eino Komula: Not found or interviewed, but assurance was received that his impressions and convictions were about the same as that of Mr. Tormala, regarding the collision. Mr. Komula did not see the actual collision but arrived shortly after. Took Ellen Huhta, Sylvia Huhta, and Leon Smith to the hospital.

Miss Agnes Rood: Present address, Woodford, Wis.; was not interviewed. Miss Rood was in the car with Eino Komula, assisted in giving first aid and getting injured to hospital. Interview deemed unnecessary.

Michael O'Brein: (State accident report.) Not found and not interviewed.

Persons injured in the collision were interviewed and, with no professional knowledge, my personal impressions regarding health and appearances of each were as follows:

Emil Lassila: No disabilities visible. His nose is slightly crooked, due to injuries received and he informed me that his neck is slightly stiff and causes him some pain at various times; also his left wrist is in a weakened condition and causes him considerable trouble while doing heavy work. I was impressed by his sincerity in stating that it was beyond his power to avoid the collision.

Martha Lassila: No disabilities. Has a plainly visible scar 1¼ inches long extending upward from inner point of left eyebrow toward center of forehead. Two scars on left hand. Perfectly normal otherwise. Interview only confirmed information contained in questionnaire.

Ellen Huhta: Not definitely healthy in appearance. She and others informed me that she is troubled considerably with a pain in her back whenever work is attempted; also while lying down she is forced to lie in a certain position to avoid pain. No visible disability was noted. Facts pertaining to collision were same given in questionnaire.

Sylvia Huhta: Normal appearance. No disabilities. By close observance some small scars are visible about the face. Claims to be bothered with a frequent pain in the chest. Information pertaining to collision was same as in questionnaire.

Gertrude Lassila: Received no injuries, but was interviewed, and since all facts and information obtained from her only affirmed what is covered in other questionnaires, and no new facts was learned, no written statements were asked for.

It would seem possible that an error had been made in the names of the claimants, Martha Lassila and Ellen Huhta in relation to the amounts of the claims.

After making various inquiries, interviewing all witnesses available and considering all evidence I have been able to find, it is my conviction that Government truck No. 272 was responsible for the collision, due to a jammed steering apparatus or excessive speed.

The sketch as shown on the copy of State Accident Report is a good illustration of the conditions at the scene of the collision. The curve is not sharp but is blind from both ways, due to timber on the inside. The truck had just come off a straightaway into the curve and the personal car was coming onto the second curve of an S. All witnesses and parties involved seem sincere and positive in their statements that the Coast and Geodetic Survey truck failed to

make the turn in time, crossed over the center line to wrong side and in front of Mr. Lassila's car.

I feel that the short field of visibility and blind condition at this curve was largely responsible for the collision.

Signed questionnaires, or statements, of the following-named people and establishments were obtained and attached hereto, as a part of this report.

Dr. A. J. Janis, Hancock, Mich.

St. Joseph's Hospital, Hancock, Mich.

Sheriff's office, Houghton, Mich. (copy of report).

Chassell Motor Co., Chassell, Mich.

Emil Lassila, Chassell, Mich.

Martha Lassila, Chassell, Mich.

Ellen Huhta, Chassell, Mich.

Sylvia Huhta, Chassell, Mich.

Eino Virenius, Chassell, Mich.

Irene Olgren, Chassell, Mich.

Ernest Klingbeil, 1297 Hilger, Detroit, Mich. (not interviewed personally).

Respectfully submitted.

MARTIN Z. BRADEN,
Signalman, Coast and Geodetic Survey.

CLAIM FOR DAMAGES, ACCIDENT, MOTOR TRANSPORTATION

Re claim of Ellen Huhta, Alex Huhta, guardian.

To Department of Commerce.

*United States Coast and Geodetic Survey,
Washington, D. C.:*

First. Your petitioner, Alex Huhta, of Chassell, Houghton County, Mich., respectfully represents that on, to wit, November 4, 1939, he was duly appointed guardian of his daughter, Ellen Huhta, a minor of the age of, to wit, 16 years; that he afterward duly qualified as such and annexed hereto is a certified copy of his letters of guardianship; that said ward resides with him in Chassell Township, Houghton County, Mich.

Second. Your petitioner further represents that on, to wit, September 23 A. D. 1939, at about the hour of 5:15 p. m., petitioner's ward, Ellen Huhta, was riding as a guest of Emil Lassila, in a model A Ford automobile, upon and along United States trunk line 41, between the village of Houghton and the village of Chassell; that said Emil Lassila was operating his said automobile in a southerly direction upon and along said trunk line, and when he reached a point on said trunk line, to wit, 2 miles north of the village of Chassell, Houghton County, Mich., said automobile, in which petitioner's ward was riding, was struck by a 1933 Dodge truck, which was then and there owned by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, and which was then and there being operated, in a northerly direction, upon and along said trunk line, by Leon Smith, an employee of said United States Coast and Geodetic Survey; that at the point where said accident occurred, there is a curve in said trunk line; that said Emil Lassila, owner and operator of the automobile in which petitioner's ward was riding, in negotiating said curve, was traveling at a slow rate of speed and upon and along his extreme right-hand side of said trunk line, and said Emil Lassila and petitioner's ward were otherwise in the exercise of due care and caution; that said Leon Smith, operator of said truck, approached said curve and attempted to negotiate the same at a high and dangerous rate of speed, to wit, 50 miles per hour; that by reason of his speed, want of control, and failure to keep a proper look-out ahead, or exercise any degree of care whatsoever, was unable to negotiate said curve and, as a result thereof, crashed into the automobile which was then and there being operated by Emil Lassila, as aforesaid, and in which petitioner's ward was riding.

Third. Your petitioner further represents that after investigation, the sheriff's department of the county of Houghton, Mich., arrested said Leon Smith, operator of said truck, and on, to wit, September 27, 1939, said Leon Smith plead guilty of reckless driving before John McCarthy, a justice of the peace in and for the county of Houghton, Mich.

Fourth. Your petitioner further represents that by reason of the reckless conduct of said Leon Smith, operator of said truck, petitioner's ward, Ellen Huhta, sustained severe, painful, and permanent injuries in that her fifth and sixth dorsal vertebrae were fractured; her skull was fractured; and she was otherwise cut, bruised, and injured; that as a result of said injuries she was confined in

St. Joseph's Hospital at Hancock, Mich., for a long space of time, to wit, 6 weeks, during which time she was compelled to undergo painful medical and surgical treatment; that she still suffers as a result of said injuries, so negligently inflicted as aforesaid, and will continue to suffer for a long space of time in the future.

Fifth. Your petitioner further represents that her attending physician was Dr. A. J. Janis, of Hancock, Mich.

Sixth. Wherefore your petitioner claims damages, for personal injuries sustained, as aforesaid, in the sum of \$3,000.

ELLEN HUHTA,
By ALEX HUHTA,
Guardian.

STATE OF MICHIGAN,
County of Houghton, ss:

Alex Huhta, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has heard read the foregoing petition by him subscribed, and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true of his own knowledge, except such matters as are therein stated on information and belief, and as to those matters he believes it to be true.

ALEX HUHTA.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of February A. D. 1940.

[SEAL]

ELLEN PEKKALA,
Notary Public, Houghton County, Mich.

My commission expires November 27, 1942.

CLAIM FOR DAMAGES, ACCIDENT, MOTOR TRANSPORTATION

Re claim of Emil Lassila.

*To Department of Commerce,
United States Coast and Geodetic Survey,
Washington, D. C.:*

First, your petitioner, Emil Lassila, of Chassell, Mich., respectfully represents that on, to wit, September 23, 1939, he was the owner of a model A Ford automobile, and on said day, at about the hour of 5:15 p. m., he was operating his said automobile in a southerly direction, upon and along United States trunk line 41, between the village of Houghton, Mich. and the village of Chassell, Mich.; that when he reached a point on said trunk line, to wit: 2 miles north of the village of Chassell, said automobile was struck by a truck, which was then and there owned by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, and which was then and there being operated by Leon Smith, an employee of said United States Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Second. Your petitioner further represents that at the point where said collision occurred, there is a curve in said trunk line; that petitioner was operating his said automobile at a slow rate of speed, upon and along his right-hand side of said trunk line and was otherwise in the exercise of due care and caution; that said Leon Smith, operator of said truck, approached said curve and attempted to negotiate the same at a high and dangerous rate of speed, to wit, 50 miles per hour; that as a result of his rate of speed, want of control and failure to keep a proper lookout ahead, he was unable to negotiate said curve on his right-hand side thereof, and as a result crashed into the automobile of your petitioner; that as a result of said crash, petitioner's automobile was damaged beyond repair, and said petitioner suffered damages to the amount of, to wit, \$150, that the damage to petitioner's said automobile was appraised by Chassell Motor Co., who is now engaged in the automobile sales and repair business at Chassell, Mich.; that the damage to petitioner's automobile was not covered by insurance.

Third. Your petitioner further represents that as a result of said collision, he sustained severe personal injuries, in that, his forehead was cut and bruised; his nose was fractured; his right arm, shoulder, and neck were severely wrenched, bruised, and injured; that as a result of said injuries he was confined in St. Joseph's Hospital, at Hancock, Mich., for the space of 4 days; that he has suffered great physical pain, inconvenience, and annoyance for a long space of time, to wit, from thence hitherto, whereby he has suffered damage to a large amount, to wit, \$500.

Fourth. Your petitioner further represents that as a result of said injuries, he was unable to work or earn any compensation whatever, for a long space of time,

to wit, 2 months; that at the time of said injuries and prior thereto he was earning the sum of \$3 per day at common labor; that by reason of the premises he has sustained damage to a large amount, to wit, \$156.

Fifth. Your petitioner further represents that by reason of the premises, he was compelled to expend large sums of money in the payment of doctor bills, hospital bills, medicines, etc., amounting to a large sum, to wit, \$61.25, an itemized statement of which is hereto annexed and made a part hereof.

Sixth. Your petitioner further represents that he is the father or Martha Lassila, a minor; that said Martha Lassila was riding with him in his said automobile, and by reason of said collision, she was seriously injured; that she was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital and was attended by Dr. A. J. Janis; that your petitioner, as father of said minor, became and was liable for the services rendered by said hospital and Dr. Janis; that the doctor and hospital bill for said minor amounts to the sum of, to-wit, \$57.65, itemized statements of which are hereto annexed and made a part hereof.

Seventh. Your petitioner further represents that he was attended by Dr. A. J. Janis of Hancock, Mich.

Eighth. Wherefor petitioner claims damages in the sum of \$618.90.

EMIL LASSILA.

STATE OF MICHIGAN,
County of Houghton, ss:

Emil Lassila, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has heard read the foregoing petition by him subscribed, and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true of his own knowledge, except such matters as are therein stated on information and belief, and as to those matters he believes it to be true.

EMIL LASSILA.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of February A. D. 1940.

[SEAL]

ELLEN PEKKALA,

Notary Public, Houghton County, Mich.,

My commission expires November 27, 1942.

HANCOCK, MICH., October 20, 1939.

Mr. Emil Lassila, Chassell, Mich., to A. J. Janis, M. D., debtor:
For professional services, Sept. 23, 1939: Services for injuries sustained in accident: Broken nose; laceration of scalp; hematoma of eye; sprained wrist (right); bruised shoulder (left); total----- \$40

HANCOCK, MICH.

Mr. Emil Lassila, to St. Joseph's Hospital debtor:
From Sept. 23 to 27, 4 days: To hospital attendance, at \$2.50 a day---- \$10. 00
Operating room----- 5. 00
Laboratory fee----- 3. 50
Medicines----- . 25
Miscellaneous—tetanus antitoxin----- 2. 50
Total----- 21. 25

CHASSELL MOTOR CO.,
Chassell, Mich., February 1, 1940.

Mr. Emil Lassila, Chassell, Mich.; estimate on 1929 model A Ford Tudor:
1 used body----- \$50
1 used frame----- 20
Used steering gear parts----- 10
1 used front axle----- 3
1 radiator----- 22
1 used hood----- 4
1 used flywheel housing----- 3
1 used clutch housing----- 4

8 EMIL AND MARTHA LASSILA, AND ELLEN AND SYLVIA HUHTA

2 wheels.....	\$10
1 tire.....	7
1 bumper and bumper arms.....	4
Total.....	137
Labor.....	75
Total.....	212

HANCOCK, MICH, October 20, 1939.

Miss Martha Lassila, Chassell, Mich., to A. J. Janis, M. D., debtor:
For professional services, Sept. 23, 1939: Services for injuries from accident: Laceration of eye (2 inches long); laceration of hand (1 inch long and another 1½ inches long); hematoma of head; total..... \$25

HANCOCK, MICH.

Miss Martha Lassila, to St. Joseph's Hospital, debtor:
From Sept. 23 to 28 5 days: To hospital attendance, at \$2.50 a day.... \$12. 50
Operating room, first aid..... 5. 00
Laboratory fee..... 3. 50
Medicines..... . 75
Surgical dressings..... . 90
X-ray—skull..... 10. 00
Total..... 32. 65

CLAIM FOR DAMAGES, ACCIDENT, MOTOR TRANSPORTATION

Re claim of Alex Huhta.

To Department of Commerce, United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D. C.:

First. Your petitioner, Alex Huhta, of Chassell, Mich., respectfully represents that he is the father of Ellen Huhta and Sylvia Huhta, minors, of the age of 16 and 18 years, respectively; that on, to wit, September 23, 1939, his said daughters were riding in a model A Ford automobile, which was then and there owned and operated by Emil Lassila; that said automobile was being operated by said Emil Lassila in a southerly direction, upon and along United States trunk line 41, between the village of Houghton, Mich., and the village of Chassell, Mich.; that when said automobile reached a point on said trunk line, to wit, 2 miles north of Chassell, it was struck by a 1933 Dodge truck, which was then and there owned by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, and which was being operated in a northerly direction, upon and along said trunk line, by its employee Leon Smith; that at the point where said collision occurred, there is a curve in said trunk line; that Emil Lassila, the operator of the car in which my said daughters were riding, was operating his said automobile at a slow rate of speed, and upon and along his right hand side of said trunk line and said Emil Lassila and my said daughters were otherwise in the exercise of due care and caution; that said collision was the direct result of the careless, negligent, and unlawful conduct of said Leon Smith in operating said truck, in that he carelessly, negligently, and unlawfully approached and attempted to negotiate said curve at a high and dangerous rate of speed, to wit, 50 miles per hour; that he failed to have said truck under control; that he failed to keep a proper look-out ahead; that he failed to exercise ordinary care, while operating said truck, upon and along said trunk line, at said time and place.

Second. That after investigation by the sheriff's department, said Leon Smith was arrested for reckless driving and on, to wit, September 27, 1939, plead guilty thereto.

Third. That Dr. A. J. Janis, of Hancock, Mich., was the attending physician of said minors.

Fourth. That as a result of said collision, said Ellen and Sylvia Huhta were severely injured; that they were taken to St. Joseph's Hospital at Hancock, Mich., and Dr. A. J. Janis was employed to attend them; that the doctor bill and hospital

bill, for services rendered and for which your petitioner is liable, amounts to the sum of \$358.50.

Fifth. Wherefore your petitioner claims damages amounting to the sum of \$358.50.

ALEX HUHTA.

STATE OF MICHIGAN,
County of Houghton, ss:

Alex Huhta, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has heard read the foregoing petition by him subscribed, and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true of his own knowledge, except such matters as are therein stated on information and belief, and as to those matters, he believes it to be true.

ALEX HUHTA.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day or February A. D. 1940.

[SEAL]

ELLEN PEKKALA,
Notary Public, Houghton County, Mich.

My commission expires November 27, 1942.

HANCOCK, MICH., October 20, 1939.

Miss Ellen Huhta, Chassell, Mich., to A. J. Janis, M. D., debtor:

For professional services, Sept. 23, 1939: Fracture of 5 and 6 dorsal of
vertebrae (application of case); fracture of skull (small, depressed);
laceration of skull, laceration of hand (suturing); total..... \$150
Seen daily at hospital for 4 weeks.
Brace ordered.

HANCOCK, MICH.

Miss Ellen Huhta, to St. Joseph's Hospital, debtor:

From Sept. 23 to Nov. 3, 41 days: To hospital attendance, at \$2.50 a day.....	\$102. 50
Operating room.....	5. 00
Laboratory fee.....	3. 50
Medicines.....	4. 65
Surgical dressings.....	1. 00
X-ray.....	27. 00
Miscellaneous—Cast.....	7. 00
Total.....	150. 65

HANCOCK, MICH., October 20, 1939.

Miss Sylvia Huhta, Chassell, Mich., to A. J. Janis, M. D., debtor:

For professional services Sept. 23, 1939. For injuries sustained in acci-
dent—laceration on nose (1½ inches long); laceration under right eye
(¼ inch long); bruised ribs (left); bruised shoulder, total..... \$25

HANCOCK, MICH.

Miss Sylvia Huhta to St. Joseph's Hospital, debtor:

From Sept. 23 to 28, 5 days: To hospital attendance, at \$2.50 a day....	\$12. 50
Operating room.....	5. 00
Laboratory fee.....	3. 50
Medicines.....	. 85
Surgical dressings.....	1. 00
X-ray.....	10. 00
Total.....	32. 85

CLAIM FOR DAMAGES, ACCIDENT, MOTOR TRANSPORTATION

Re claim of Sylvia Huhta, Alex Huhta, guardian.

To Department of Commerce, United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D. C.:

First. Your petitioner, Alex Huhta, of Chassell, Houghton County, Mich., respectfully represents that on, to wit, November 4, 1939, he was duly appointed guardian of his daughter Sylvia Huhta, a minor of the age of, to wit, 18 years; that he afterward duly qualified as such and annexed hereto is a certified copy of his letters of guardianship; that said ward resides with him in Chassell Township, Houghton County, Mich.

Second. Your petitioner further represents that on, to wit; September 23, A. D. 1939, at about the hour of 5:15 p. m., petitioner's ward Sylvia Huhta was riding as a guest of Emil Lassila, in a model A Ford automobile, upon and along United States trunk line 41, between the village of Houghton and the village of Chassell; that said Emil Lassila was operating his said automobile in a southerly direction, upon and along said trunk line, and when he reached a point on said trunk line, to wit, 2 miles north of the village of Chassell, Houghton County, Mich., said automobile, in which petitioner's ward was riding, was struck by a 1933 Dodge truck, which was then and there owned by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, and which was then and there being operated, in a northerly direction, upon and along said trunk line, by Leon Smith, an employee of said United States Coast and Geodetic Survey; that at the point where said accident occurred, there is a curve in said trunk line; that said Emil Lassila, owner and operator of the automobile in which petitioner's ward was riding, in negotiating said curve, was traveling at a slow rate of speed and upon and along his extreme right hand side of said trunk line, and said Emil Lassila and petitioner's ward were otherwise in the exercise of due care and caution; that said Leon Smith, operator of said truck, approached said curve and attempted to negotiate the same at a high and dangerous rate of speed, to wit, 50 miles per hour; that by reason of his speed, want of control and failure to keep a proper lookout ahead, or exercise any degree of care whatsoever, was unable to negotiate said curve and as a result thereof, crashed into the automobile, which was then and there being operated by Emile Lassila, as aforesaid, and in which petitioner's ward was riding.

Third. Your petitioner further represents that after investigation, the sheriff's department of the County of Houghton, Mich., arrested said Leon Smith, operator of said truck, and on, to wit, September 27, 1939, said Leon Smith pleaded guilty of reckless driving before John McCarthy, a justice of the peace, in and for the county of Houghton, Mich.

Fourth. Your petitioner further represents that by reason of the reckless conduct of said Leon Smith, operator of said truck, petitioner's ward Sylvia Huhta sustained severe, painful and permanent injuries, in that, she suffered a laceration 1½ inches long on her nose; a laceration under her right eye one-fourth inch long, and her ribs, shoulder, and other parts of her body were severely bruised and injured; that as a result of said injuries, she was confined in St. Joseph's Hospital, at Hancock, Mich., for a long space of time, to wit, 5 days, during which time she was compelled to undergo painful medical and surgical treatment; that as a result of said injuries, so negligently inflicted as aforesaid, her face is permanently scarred and disfigured, and she will continue to suffer, in the future, great mental humiliation and disgrace.

Fifth. Your petitioner further represents that her attending physician was Doctor A. J. Janis of Hancock, Mich.

Sixth. Wherefore, your petitioner claims damages for personal injuries sustained as aforesaid, in the sum of \$3,000.

SYLVIA HUHTA,
By ALEX HUHTA,
Guardian.

STATE OF MICHIGAN,
County of Houghton, ss:

Alex Huhta, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has heard, read the foregoing petition by him subscribed, and knows the contents thereof, and that

the same is true of his own knowledge except such matters as are therein stated on information and belief, and as to those matters, he believes it to be true.

ALEX HUHTA.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of February A. D. 1940.

[SEAL]

ELLEN PEKKALA,
Notary Public, Houghton County, Mich.

My commission expired November 27, 1942.

CLAIM FOR DAMAGES, ACCIDENT, MOTOR TRANSPORTATION

Re claim of Martha Lassila, Emil Lassila, guardian.

To Department of Commerce,

United States Coast and Geodetic Survey,
Washington, D. C.:

First. Your petitioner, Emil Lassila, of Chassell, Houghton County, Mich., respectfully represents that on, to wit, November 4, 1939, he was duly appointed guardian of his daughter, Martha Lassila, a minor of the age of, to wit, 16 years; that he afterward duly qualified as such and annexed hereto is a certified copy of his letters of guardianship; that said ward resides with him in Chassell Township, Houghton County, Mich.

Second. Your petitioner further represents that on, to wit, September 23, 1939, he was the owner of a model A Ford automobile and on said date, at about 5:15 p. m., he was returning from his work with said ward; that his daughter Martha Lassila, claimant herein, was riding in the rear seat; that he was driving in a southerly direction, upon and along United States trunk line 41, between the village of Houghton and the village of Chassell; that when he reached a point on said trunk line, to wit, 2 miles north of the village of Chassell, Houghton County, Mich., his automobile, in which his daughter and ward Martha was riding, was struck by a 1933 Dodge truck, which was then and there owned by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, and which was then and there being operated, in a northerly direction, upon and along said trunk line, by Leon Smith, an employee of said United States Coast and Geodetic Survey; that at the point where said accident occurred, there was a curve on said trunk line; that your petitioner, in negotiating said curve, was traveling at a slow rate of speed and upon and along his extreme right hand side of said trunk line, and your petitioner and his said ward were otherwise in the exercise of due care and caution; that said Leon Smith, operator of said truck, approached said curve and attempted to negotiate the same at a high and dangerous rate of speed, to wit, 50 miles per hour; that by reason of his speed, want of control and failure to keep a proper lookout ahead, or exercise any degree of care whatsoever, was unable to negotiate said curve and as a result thereof crashed into the automobile, which was then and there being operated by petitioner as aforesaid, and in which petitioner's ward was riding.

Third. Your petitioner further represents that after investigation, the sheriff's department of the county of Houghton, Mich., arrested said Leon Smith, operator of said truck, and on, to wit, September 27, 1939, said Leon Smith plead guilty to reckless driving before John McCarthy, justice of the peace in and for the county of Houghton, Mich.

Fourth. Your petitioner further represents that by reason of the reckless conduct of said Leon Smith, operator of said truck, petitioner's ward Martha Lassila sustained severe, painful, and permanent injuries, as follows: Laceration over left eye, 2 inches long; lacerations on left hand 1 inch long and 1½ inches long; severe bruises on the head, and she was otherwise bruised and injured; that as a result of said injuries, she was confined in St. Joseph's Hospital, at Hancock, Mich., for a long space of time, to wit, 5 days, during which time she was compelled to undergo painful medical and surgical treatment; that as a result of said injuries she has suffered great physical pain and mental distress, humiliation and disgrace; that her face will be permanently scarred and disfigured, and that she will continue, in the future, to suffer great mental distress, humiliation, and disgrace, a photograph of said ward being hereto annexed.

Fifth. Your petitioner further represents that her attending physician was Dr. A. J. Janis, of Hancock, Mich.

12 EMIL AND MARTHA LASSILA, AND ELLEN AND SYLVIA HUHTA

Sixth. Wherefore your petitioner claims damages for personal injuries sustained, as aforesaid, in the sum of \$5,000.

MARTHA LASSILA.
By EMIL LASSILA,
Guardian.

STATE OF MICHIGAN,
County of Houghton, ss:

Emil Lassila, being duly sworn, deposes and says, that he has heard read the foregoing petition by him subscribed, and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true of his own knowledge, except such matters as are therein stated on information and belief, and as to those matters, he believes it to be true.

EMIL LASSILA.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of February A. D. 1940.

[SEAL]

ELLEN PEKKALA,
Notary Public, Houghton County, Mich.

My commission expires November 27, 1942.

